REMARKS

Claims 10-11 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 8-9 and 12 have been amended. Claims 1-6, 8-9 and 12 remain for further consideration. No new matter has been added.

The rejections shall be taken up in the order presented in the Official Action.

1. Claims 1-6 and 8-12 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for allegedly containing subject matter which is not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to a person of ordinary skill in the art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time of the invention.

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended. The specification has also been amended. It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is now moot.

2. Claims 9-11 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for allegedly failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter deemed to be the subject matter of the present invention.

Claim 9 has been amended, and claims 10-11 have been cancelled.

For all the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6, 8-9 and 12 is respectfully requested.

If a telephone interview could assist in the prosecution of this application, please call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick J. O'Shea

Reg. No. 35,305

Samuels, Gauthier & Stevens, LLP

225 Franklin Street, Suite 3300

Boston, MA 02110

(617) 426-9180, Ext. 121